



March 11, 2011

Ex Parte

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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; High-Cost Universal Service Support, CC Docket 96-45; WC Docket No. 05-337

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Yesterday, John Scott of Verizon Wireless and the undersigned met with Sharon Gillett, Carol Matthey, Trent Harkrader, Amy Bender, Ted Burmeister, Nicholas Degani, and Patrick Halley of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss issues related to Verizon Wireless' status as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC). The discussion was consistent with the February 3 and February 17, 2011 letters that Verizon filed in the above-referenced dockets.¹

In particular, we explained that the arguments by some competitive ETCs that Verizon Wireless is not eligible to receive high cost universal service support at all, or that its eligibility is limited to subscriber lines previously served by its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Rural Cellular Corporation (RCC) and Alltel, cannot be squared with the Commission's own rules and decisions. We also discussed the impact on Verizon Wireless and the high cost fund if Verizon Wireless were required to revise its line count filings to remove legacy Verizon Wireless lines.

This letter is being filed electronically pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tamara Preiss", written in a cursive style.

cc: Sharon Gillett
Carol Matthey
Patrick Halley

Trent Harkrader
Amy Bender
Ted Burmeister

Nick Degani

¹ *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; High-Cost Universal Service Support*, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket No. 05-337, Letter from Tamara Preiss, Verizon, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (filed Feb. 3, 2011); Letter from Tamara Preiss, Verizon, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (filed Feb. 17, 2011).